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Acting
Monday
November 17, 1952

Staff meeting.

Polyzoides came to see me about the communications intelligence matter with which we have been occupied for some time.

The German Chargé Dr. Krekeler and Jimmy Riddleberger visited me. Krekeler is returning almost immediately to Germany, and wished to know what the United States Government attitude was at present regarding the EDC and political integration amongst the six European nations. I told him our policy remained unchanged, and enthusiastically favored such steps.

We also had some discussion of Franco-German relationships. He is reasonably optimistic about the ability of France and Germany to reconcile their differences. He thinks [redacted] the Bundestag will certainly ratify the EDC this month, and the Bundesrat about the beginning of the New Year will do the same.

I went to see the President at 12:30 and took up with him several matters connected with his meeting tomorrow with General Eisenhower. I also spoke to him of our feeling in State that the formation of a Presidential commission to study the policy to be applied to foreign oil operations of American companies would be desirable. He said [redacted] he expected to discuss this with Secretary Chapman this afternoon, and was favorably disposed toward the idea.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR [redacted]
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I stopped on my way from the White House at the Metropolitan Club for lunch and bought the two-volume memoirs of Joe Grew on my way back to the office. It has had excellent reviews. Its contents cover forty

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interesting. Joe himself is very steamed up about it. He told me the other night that he had written with complete frankness except he had omitted certain criticisms of living individuals.

Carl Humelsine talked to me this afternoon about changes that should be made in some of our foreign missions, which cannot await the coming into office of the new Administration. None of these relate to chiefs of mission.

I went over to Bedell Smith's office to see a movie produced by the Department of the Air Force called "Confessions", with James Stewart as the expositor. It showed a lot of stills of people like Vogeler, Cardinal Mindszenty, and others before and during their trials. I thought it a mediocre piece of work with not enough horror in it, but worth distribution.

Charlie Blackwell called on me to tell me about the difficulty his firm, J. S. Bache and Co., had recently experienced in Paris, where their office was raided by French police. The French want to impose a tax upon their stock brokerage transactions which would make the maintenance of the Paris office [redacted] unprofitable. I had discussed the same matter with some of his partners on several occasions in Paris.

Tonight the Arthur Gardners came to dinner with us.

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